

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY	Czechoslovakia	REPORT	50X1-HUM
SUBJECT	Uranium and Manganese Mines at Chvaletice	DATE DISTR.	10 November 1953
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- Between the village of Telcice (O 51/M 48), the Teplice - Trnavka railroad line and the villages of Zdechovice and Chvaletice (O 51/M 58), some old 18th century copper mines are located. In 1952, the mines had only one mining tower. Test drillings were made to a depth of 600 meters and uranium was discovered 300 meters under the ground. Later, silver, lead and manganese were also discovered. Mining is done with the aid of the mining tower and work in the old shafts goes to a depth of 600 meters.
- The former village of Telcice has grown into a town with about 60 houses. Some of these are tenement houses, each with five stories and 24 apartments, including a kitchen, living room, bedroom and bathroom. The new town area lies to the south of Teplice and reaches to the edge of the forest starting at point 294.
- A two-story ferro-concrete building 30 by 50 meters in size was built at point 240, about 1,000 meters from the railroad track. Several wooden huts have been built in the vicinity of Chvaletice.
- A railroad line has been built from the Recany station; it runs around the ore deposits and leads to the ferro-concrete hall. The Recany station has also been enlarged into a freight yard. The railroad line is connected with the galleries by several narrow-gauge tracks.
- The Chvaletice mines employ about 2,000 or 2,500 workers, the majority of whom live in the tenement houses at Telcice. About 2,000 men perform heavy mining work, while 400 or 500 women are employed in maintenance work, servicing the narrow-gauge track and operating the crushing machines. The hardest work in the most dangerous sections is done by some 400 prisoners from the labor camp at Pardubice. Prisoners with short sentences who are not considered too dangerous live in a camp right at the Chvaletice mines, while the rest travel daily to and from Pardubice. Many employees of the Czechoslovak Construction Works (Ceskovslovenske stavebni zavody - CSSZ) of Pardubice are also working at the mines. Work is done in three shifts.

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6. The mines are flooded, and this is a great hindrance to getting full operation going. Specialists do not think that the mines can be pumped dry in the near future. However, large pumping stations and new drainage pipes are being constructed, leading to two ponds on the northern side of the railroad track. From these ponds, the water is released into the Elbe River after it has been chemically analyzed to determine that it does not contain poisonous substances.
7. Ore is brought up from the shafts by means of a narrow-gauge funicular railroad and is then transferred to the ferro-concrete building. On the ground floor of this building are the crushing machines; on the second floor the machine shop and the electric switchboard are located. Ore is first crushed in the machines and then rinsed with water so that the heavier manganese ore sinks down. The ore is then loaded into railroad cars and most of it is sent to Vitkovice; however, some of it is sent to Kladno.
8. The capacity of the Chvaletice mines is 15 or 20 carloads of rinsed, clean ore per three-shift day.
9. The Chvaletice mines have their own administration, which is located at Chvaletice. The majority of the personnel were trained at Jachymov.
10. Electricity is supplied by the Pardubice powerhouse through the switchboard in the ferro-concrete building.

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